

Launching Your VISTA Service: Helpful Links

My AmeriCorps Portal	Complete your onboarding forms, access your VAD, and access your wage statements and service letters
VISTA Campus	Online learning resources to help you serve better, as well as opportunities to connect with your fellow VISTA members, leaders, and alumni
Starting VISTA Page	Outlines the process for your VISTA Member Orientation, including onboarding forms, online coursework, and actions to take when beginning VISTA service
Benefits Hub	Overview of your benefits as a VISTA member
CNCS State Offices	Contact information for each of the CNCS state offices
VISTA Member Handbook	Comprehensive source for VISTA policies, procedures, definitions, and legal information
VISTA Resources and Contacts	1-pager showing who to contact for issues that may arise throughout your year of service
VISTA Member Orientation Checklist	Use this checklist to track your progress through the VISTA Member Orientation process
CNCS Equal Opportunity Program (EOP)	Civil Rights and Non-Discrimination, Ch. 15 of VISTA Member Handbook. Phone: 202-606-7503; email: eo@cns.gov
CNCS Office of Inspector General	Independent office within CNCS that provides oversight to protect the integrity of national service. Phone: 800-452-8210; email: hotline@cncsoig.gov
Criminal History Check and Fingerprinting	Step-by-step instructions on how to get your fingerprints done and submit them to VISTA headquarters
VISTA Business Card Template	Use these sample business card designs and templates to design your own VISTA business card
VISTA Publications (brochures, Flyers, etc.)	A great source of brochures, flyers, and other VISTA marketing materials to use in your office and represent VISTA in the field
VISTA Logos	Access logos for use on service gear and on printed and electronic documents. Guidelines for use are also provided
VISTA Oath Form	Print and download the VISTA member Oath form

Early Service Coursework

These online courses are recommended for your first two weeks of service

Make the Most of your Onsite Orientation and Training	This checklist will help you get acclimated to your organization and your project
Learn about Theory of Change	Learn more about the theory behind the anti-poverty work you will be doing
Introducing Yourself and Your Organization: The Minute Intro	Create a short and impactful introduction to help you connect with the community you will be serving and your project stakeholders
How Poverty is Measured in the United States	This course helps spur your thinking on this complex issue
VISTA Assignment Description (VAD) Worksheet	This worksheet will help you understand your role in helping to address poverty in your community
Creating a Community Profile	Complete this profile to understand the makeup of your community and the particular challenges facing people navigating poverty
Thirteen Lessons About Poverty	Explore lessons about poverty learned during the first 50 years of the VISTA program, in this compelling explanation by Dr. Stephen Pimpare, author of <i>A People's History of Poverty in America</i>